

A tall and athletic nineteen-year-old, Chance Phelps attended Moffat County and Palisade high schools where he was known for his fun-loving nature and being an avid outdoorsman. He came from a family with a rich military tradition, his father John being a Vietnam veteran, and his sister Kelley working at the Pentagon. After the terrorist bombings of 9–11, Chance knew that he had to do something for his nation, and resolved to join the Marines. As a dedicated member of our Armed Forces and as a patriot, he answered the call of duty, embarking on a journey to defend freedom and independence.

Randy Rehn was known as an athlete and a prankster. At Niwot High School, he was a football player and an all-state wrestler. He was a loving husband and the new father of a six-month-old girl. I know that Randy's daughter, family and friends take pride in the uniform he wore and the ideals for which he fought.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot fully express my deep sense of gratitude for the sacrifice of these young soldiers and their families. Throughout our history, men and women in uniform have fought our battles with distinction and courage. At the dawn of this new century, the United States military has once again been called to defend our freedom against a new and emerging threat. Soldiers like Randal, Mark, Chance, and Randy embody America's determination to lead the world in confronting that threat, and their devotion to that cause will not be forgotten. These brave soldiers have made all Americans proud and I know they have the respect and admiration of all of my colleagues here today.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, as we reflect on this Memorial Day and remember our fallen heroes, I would like to offer special recognition for four incredibly brave men from my district who sacrificed their lives fighting the war on terror.

On September 10, 2003, Staff Sgt. Joseph E. Robsky, Jr. of the 759th Ordnance Company was killed when an improvised explosive device he was called on to neutralize detonated. Staff Sgt. Robsky was 31 years old.

On September 15, 2003, 31 year old Staff Sgt. Kevin Kimmerly of North Creek, New York was killed in a rocket-propelled grenade attack on the streets of Baghdad.

On April 8 of this year, a rocket-propelled grenade killed Army Spc. Isaac Michael Nieves as insurgents in Bani Saad, Iraq, ambushed his patrol. Spc. Nieves, from Sidney, New York, was 20 years old.

And on April 11, Easter Sunday of this year, 21 year old Pfc. Nathan P. Brown of South Glens Falls, New York was ambushed while on patrol with his unit in Samarra, Iraq. Nathan Brown served in the Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 108th Infantry, 1st Armored Division out of Glens Falls, New York.

Each of these remarkable young men left behind family and friends they loved and cared for. They were cut down in the prime of

life by those who hate the very freedoms these soldiers, these Americans, these heroes, were trying to protect.

What makes their sacrifice even more special is the fact that not only were they fighting against the terrorists who have declared war on America, but that they were also fighting for millions of Iraqi citizens who yearn for the freedoms that so many of us take for granted.

With each passing day in the war on terror I think about these heroes and the ultimate sacrifice they made so our mission can be victorious. It is because of men like Joe Robsky, Kevin Kimmerly, Isaac Michael Nieves, Nathan Brown, and the hundreds of other Americans who lost their lives that we must succeed in our mission. I refuse to tarnish their memories by fighting this war in vain.

This Memorial Day, and all others afterward, will have extra significance for me. Casting a vote to send our troops into harm's way is the most difficult thing I have done since coming to Congress. While I remain convinced of the justness of our cause, I now have an even greater appreciation for our men and women fighting the war on terror thousands of miles away from their homes and families.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to honor the memories of the 20th District's bravest soldiers. I will spend my Memorial Day praying for their families, for the successful completion of their mission and for the safe return of all our troops. God bless them all, and God bless America.

CONGRATULATING BOB LINDNER AS HE CELEBRATES HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend Bob Lindner, who is retiring from the Baltimore District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Over our nearly twenty year working relationship, there were a few times that he may not have realized that I considered him a friend, but I am proud to state for the record that I do.

Bob Lindner is a model example of the dedicated but unsung civil servants who make our government work. Those of us who are elected or appointed to policy level positions like to think we are running things, but the truth is that policy is only as good as it is implemented. Bob is a master of understanding the underlying policy and applying it in a practical way to achieve the desired outcome.

Bob, who will turn 62 next week, is retiring after 39 years of civil service. He most recently served as the Chief of the Planning Division for the Baltimore District for the past five years. He is responsible for a staff of 75 engineers and scientists. He has led a strong Civil Works Program that includes the geographic area of our Nation's Capital and portions of six States, and includes projects in the planning, design and construction phases.

Bob's career has been highlighted by numerous accomplishments, including the Scranton and Olyphant Local Flood Protection Projects, Lock Haven Flood Protection Project and numerous projects solving flood control, navigation and erosion problems. It has been

through the Wyoming Valley Levee Raising Project that I came to work most closely with Bob. In fact, it took me some time to forgive him for retiring before the project is completed; however, I have come to recognize that he has devoted much of his time in the Corps to training the next generation of managers to follow in his footsteps.

Over the years we faced many obstacles with the Wyoming Valley Levee Raising Project, including budget cuts, an audit, and conflicts among partners, but Bob always managed to keep the project moving forward. We had our battles when I thought the Corps should be more flexible, and he thought I was a bit too ambitious. However, I always knew he had the best interest of the country, the Corps, and the project at heart, and we grew to respect one another.

From 1992 to 1999, Bob was a manager in the Programs and Project Management Division. This included six years as Acting Assistant Chief of the Division. He helped oversee the development and execution of a \$2 billion dollar planning, design and construction program dispersed over 27 military installations and civil works and environmental restoration projects in the Susquehanna and Potomac River Basins and Chesapeake Bay.

Prior to 1992, Bob served as Chief of the Project Development Branch in the Planning Division, where he was responsible for the study and plan formulation phase for Civil Works water resources projects. Many of the projects constructed or in construction today, started as studies under Bob's leadership—including those in Scranton, Olyphant, the Wyoming Valley and other projects that reflect highly on the Baltimore District today.

Bob is a trusted confidante. He is known throughout the Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works community for his practical solutions to complex issues.

Bob has been honored through numerous awards, including the Army Superior Civilian Service Award, the Army Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Outstanding Supervisor of the Year for the Baltimore District and Outstanding Supervisor of the Year for the Federal Executive Board for Baltimore Region.

While Bob is a hard worker, he is completely dedicated to his wife Doris and their two children, Nancy and David. They reside in Baldwin, Maryland.

I want to thank Bob for his service to the Nation through his Army and Corps of Engineers career. Bob's knowledge, skill, and abilities developed over a lifetime of dedicated service as an engineer and civil servant, his contribution to his profession and society, and his honesty and ethical standards make him deserving of our recognition today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representative please join me in congratulating Bob Lindner and wish him all the best for a well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE ARTISTIC TALENTS OF TYRON MORRISON

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous artistic ability of a